

Appl. No. 09/893,032
Amtd. Dated February 10, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 11, 2005

Attorney Docket No. 81784.0239
Customer No. 26021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2, 5-8 and 10-17 are pending in the Application. By this Amendment, claim 7 is being amended to improve its form. No new matter is involved.

At the top of page 2 of the Final Office Action of August 11, 2005, it is stated that claim 2 has been allowed and that claims 5-8 and 10-17 remain rejected.

In Paragraph 3 which begins on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 5-8, 10-14, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,818,801 of Watanabe et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,292,440 of Lee. In Paragraph 4 on page 7 of the Office Action, claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. in view of Lee and further in view of Microsoft Dictionary. These rejections are respectfully traversed, particularly in view of the amendments being made to claim 7 herein.

Claim 7 defines a signal processing circuit which includes a memory, a CD-ROM decoder, an anti-shock controller, an MP3 decoder, a first arbiter, a second arbiter, and a selection circuit. As amended herein, the first arbiter is defined as "generating an output signal for controlling said memory in the order of priority according to a plurality of request signals from said CD-ROM decoder or a readout signal received from the MP3 decoder". The MP3 decoder limitation has been moved so as to precede the first arbiter limitation and provide an antecedent basis for the reference to the MP3 decoder therein.

Claim 7 has been rejected as unpatentable over Watanabe et al. '801 in view of Lee '440. Yet neither of those references, taken alone or in the attempted combination thereof, disclose a structure wherein a memory is controlled in the order of priority determined for various types of processing in accordance with a request signal received from a CD-ROM decoder or a readout signal received from an MP3 decoder. This feature of the present invention is described on page 6 of the

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specification. Therefore, claim 7 is submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over such references and the attempted combination thereof.

Claims 5, 6, 8 and 10-17 depend, directly or indirectly from and contain all of the limitations of claim 7, so that such claims are also submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the references. In the case of claim 15, the addition of the Microsoft Dictionary fails to remedy the basic deficiencies of the Watanabe et al. and Lee references. Claim 2 is allowed.

In conclusion, claims 2, 5-8 and 10-17 are submitted to clearly distinguish patentably over the prior art for the reasons set forth above. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed herewith.

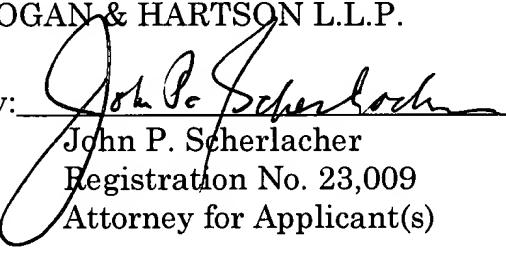
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6846 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

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